

BEFORE  
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
DOCKET NO. 2006-36-S - ORDER NO. 2006-180  
MARCH 16, 2006

IN RE: Application of Midlands Utility, Inc. for	) ORDER APPROVING
Extension of Sanitary Sewer Service Area to	) ADDITION OF
Include Empire Estates Phase III	) SERVICE AREA

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) on the request of Midlands Utility, Inc. (Midlands or the Company) for extension of sewer service to Phase III of Empire Estates Subdivision in Orangeburg County, South Carolina. This request is made pursuant to 26 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 103-504 (Supp. 2005).

Pursuant to the instructions of the Commission's Docketing Department, the Company published a Notice of Filing in a newspaper of general circulation in the area of the proposed extension of service. No Protests or Petitions to Intervene were received. On February 15, 2006, this Commission issued Order No. 2006-97, which granted the Office of Regulatory Staff (ORS) a period of ninety (90) days to investigate the Application. By letter dated February 28, 2006, ORS advised this Commission that it had completed its investigation, and, after having reviewed the site plans provided by Midlands, it found them to be acceptable. Further, ORS stated that it does not oppose the Application. This Commission has reviewed this matter, and finds that the Commission agenda session of March 14, 2006, shall constitute the "due hearing" required by 26 S.C. Code Ann. Regs.

103-504 (Supp. 2005). We also find that the Application should be approved, and the requisite Certificate required by the Regulation should be granted.

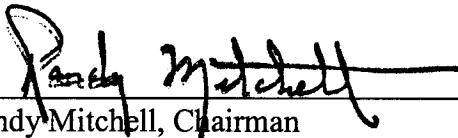
Midlands asserts that Phase III of the Empire Estates Subdivision is adjacent to parcels currently served by Midlands. Sewer from the project will be connected to a nearby gravity main and transported through Midlands' existing collection system and transported to the City of Orangeburg Department of Public Utilities (DPU) for treatment and disposal.

Midlands is requesting that this project be included in its current service area on file with the Commission. Midlands states that customers that will build or buy in this new development will be charged the approved rates and charges by the Commission.

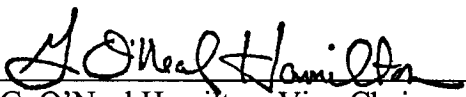
The Application is approved as filed and the requisite Certificate is granted. Phase III of Empire Estates Subdivision in Orangeburg County, South Carolina is hereby declared to be in the Company's service area on file with this Commission. Clearly, the area to be served is adjacent to parcels already served by Midlands. The approval of the Application and the granting of the Certificate are in the public interest.

This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Randy Mitchell, Chairman

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
G. O'Neal Hamilton, Vice-Chairman

(SEAL)